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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **NAKATANI, Kazuo, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **3744**

Serial No.: **10/757,397**

Examiner: **Filip ZEC**

Filed: **January 15, 2004**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 4943

For. **REFRIGERATOR**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND
STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 13, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A European Search Report and one copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry in the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.


The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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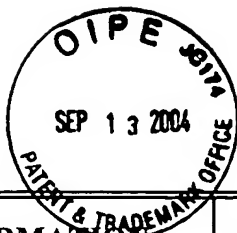
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Atty. Docket No. **040008**
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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: European Search Report; PTO-1449 w/ 5 references
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No. 040008	Serial No. 10/757,397
	Applicant(s): NAKATANI, Kazuo, et al.	
	Filing Date: January 15, 2004	Group Art Unit: 3744

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA	4,326,868	Ozu et al.	4-27-82	62	324.6	
_____	AB						
_____	AC						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AD	2003-74990	3-12-03	Japan	abstract
_____	AE	1-239350	9-25-89	Japan	abstract
_____	AF	5-288421	11-2-93	Japan	abstract
_____	AG	1 033 541 A1	9-6-00	Europe	
_____	AH				
_____	AI				

Examiner	Date Considered
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